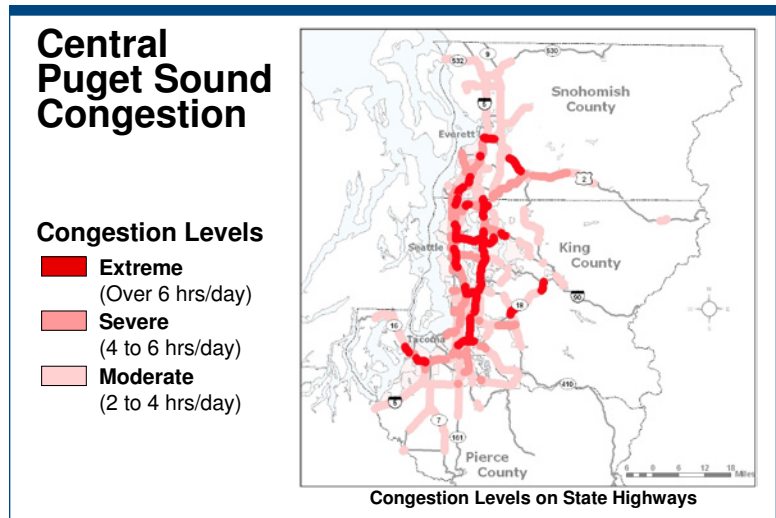
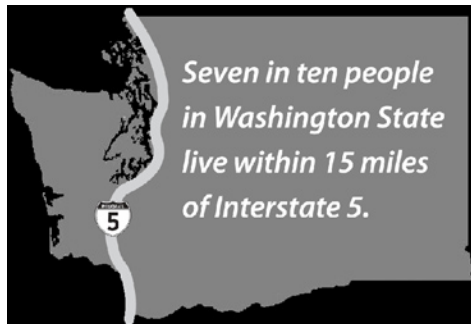


Regional And Economic Benefits Of The I-405 Project



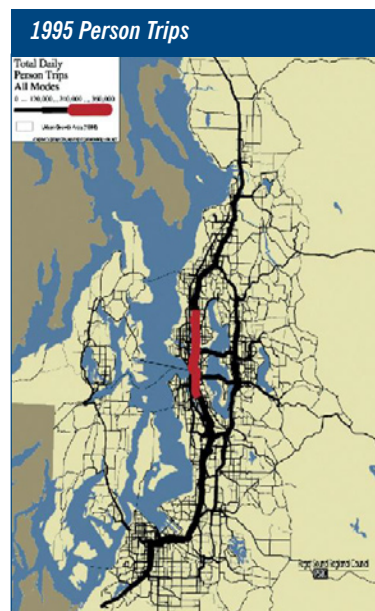
How important is I-405 to our region?

I-405 is an indispensable link in the local, state and regional transportation network. As part of the Interstate 5 system, it provides a vital relief valve for the I-5 and other arteries on the west side of Lake Washington. It serves both through traffic and local traffic. I-405 provides essential linkages for cross-lake traffic between the Westside and the Eastside, our state's population centers and principal economic engines. And, critically, I-405 improvements help focus economic investment and population growth within the Urban Growth Boundary. I-405 links seven established urban centers, from Lynnwood in the north to Tukwila in the south.

The first phase of I-405 improvements, the Nickel Projects, will help reduce three of the worst traffic congestion spots in the Puget Sound region – in Renton, Bellevue and Kirkland – that are critical for protecting quality of life and economic opportunity. Without improvement, WSDOT estimates that rush hour trips in 2020 will take about 40 percent longer than today.

How many people does I-405 serve?

There are about 560,000 residents along the I-405 corridor and about 410,000 jobs. By 2020, those numbers will grow to 765,000 residents and 550,000 jobs. That's the equivalent of adding two cities the size of Bellevue and eight new employers the size of Microsoft. A 56 percent increase in daily trips on I-405 is expected by 2020 – this on a roadway that already experiences up to 10 hours of congestion a day at key chokepoints.



How will the I-405 Project help our region and our economy?

The I-405 Master Plan will result in a savings of 13 million hours and \$569 million in travel time annually, while accommodating an additional 110,000 trips per day. This translates to significant individual time cost savings. Nearly two times the amount of goods (in tons) flow through I-405 than are shipped through the Port of Seattle, so it's clear that I-405 improvements are needed to keep the Puget Sound economy moving. As a critical corridor for goods from the Port of Seattle, Sea-Tac International Airport and Green River Valley industrial centers, I-405 improvements will help maintain reliability for freight businesses. Improvements to I-405 will reduce clogged neighborhood and arterial streets, and reduce cut-through traffic by getting cars back on the freeway. The I-405 Master Plan has tremendous safety benefits, such as decreasing traffic accidents and saving \$42 million a year.

How will I-405 construction add to our economy?

The U.S. Department of Transportation estimates that each \$1 billion invested in highway construction generates 47,500 full-time jobs – Approximately 8,850 in direct, on-site construction, 22,150 in construction supply industries and 16,500 within the general economy benefiting from construction employees spending their wages. Since I-405 three Nickel Projects total \$485 million, that means more than 23,000 full-time jobs will be created – 4,250 direct construction jobs, 10,750 jobs in supply industries, and 8,000 in the general economy.

What kind of impact will the I-405 Project have on taxpayers?

When the long-range I-405 program is completed, congestion relief will lead to travel time savings of \$569 million a year – allowing workers to get to work instead of being stuck in traffic. With no improvements, WSDOT estimates that rush hour trips in 2020 will take about 40 percent longer than today.

Primary Freight Movements

- Washington's economy is the most trade-dependent of any state in the country
- \$50 million in freight moves on I-405 every day
- Congestion delays freight, adding to the cost of goods
- Nearly one in three Washington workers have jobs related to international trade



Population & Employment Growth

- Up to 250,000 people (equivalent to two cities the size of Bellevue) are projected to move into the I-405 corridor by 2020.
- In 2002, there were 409,000 jobs located along the corridor; in 2020 the number will grow to 553,000.

